

A CAHNNERS PUBLICATION

DATA[®]MATION

FOR CORPORATE COMPUTING PROFESSIONALS WORLDWIDE

FEBRUARY 15, 1992

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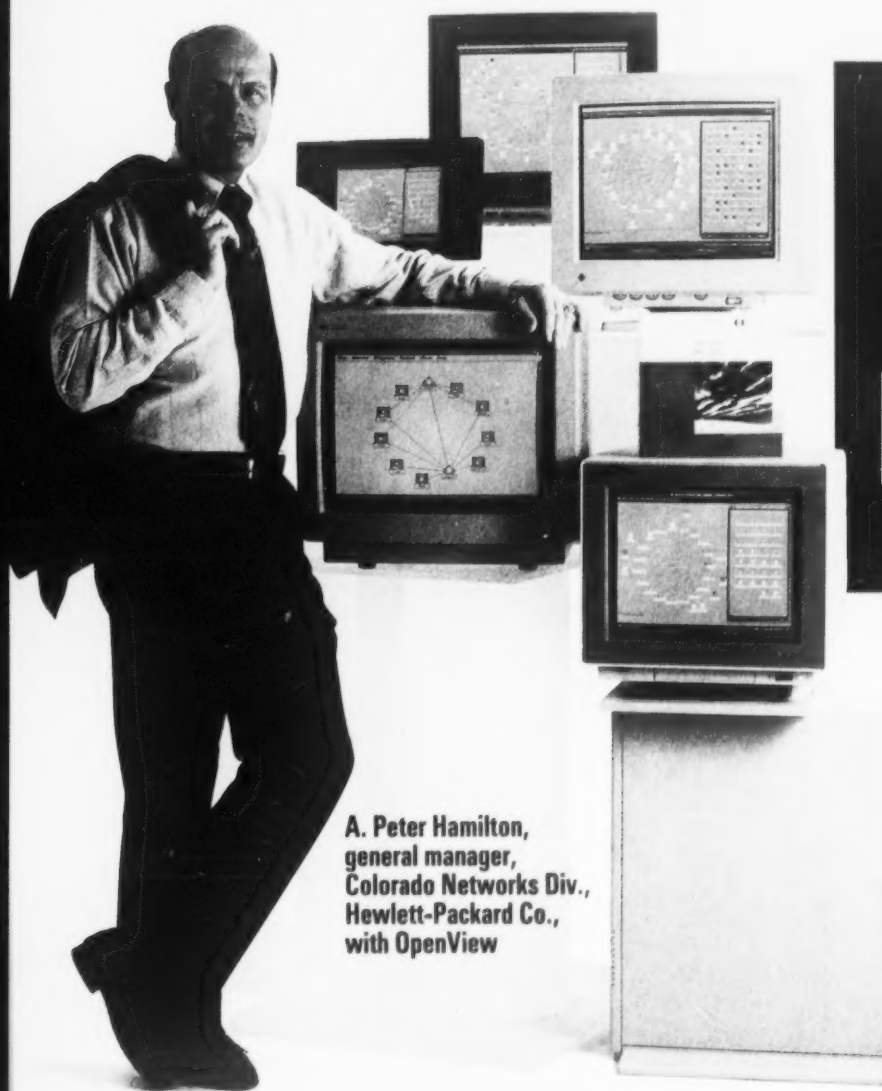
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A. Peter Hamilton,
general manager,
Colorado Networks Div.,
Hewlett-Packard Co.,
with OpenView



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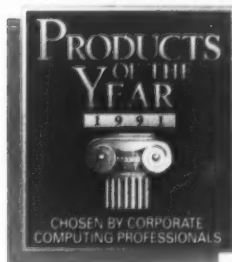
22 HP Opens Up Network Management

On a clear day, you can see to the end of your network with OpenView, even if it's a multivendor, multiprotocol net.



ON THE COVER: HP's Hamilton has OpenView for a multitude of platforms; HP, IBM, Sun and Toshiba.

SPECIAL REPORT



30 DATAMATION's 1991 Products Of The Year Contest Winners

Among the thousands of products that the computer industry churns out each year are a few gems—innovative products that are a true pleasure to use. In this issue, we feature 24 of them: the winners of DATAMATION's 1991 Products Of The Year contest.

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77 A New DBMS Script

Alpha Software's Alpha Four version 2.0 is a menu-driven, nonprocedural relational database designed for nonprogrammers.

78 Easy Database Access

Personal Access, Spinnaker Software Corp.'s new database access and application development tool, could be the answer to time-consuming, complex and costly data access problems.



Alpha's cochairmen Richard (r.) and Selwyn Rabins have built a database that's powerful and easy to use, page 77.

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79 Does Your DBMS Do Windows?

If you're migrating to Windows and all you lack is a DBMS, you may not have long to wait or far to look.

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The 486 chip comes with enough models and prices to confound any PC buyer. Here's your guidebook to help steer through the commotion.

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Looking for the latest in help desk technology? It's not on the mainframe. It's on PCs.

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Don't send a support person to remote sites—a distributed analyzer can send you the data you need to spot and fix LAN troubles.

58 UNIX On The LAN Eases Mainframe Load

Large engineering simulations can be moved to LANs by using UNIX workstations as compute servers, cutting costly mainframe MIPS.



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65 Can OfficeVision Take Off With Notes?

Host-based integrated office systems and desktop personal productivity software are linking up with new high-flying work group computing products.

PERIPHERALS

69 Add Color To Your Volume Printing

With its new spot color printer, Xerox is out to prove that color is fast and cheap to produce in house.



Xerox's 4850 can generate pages with black and one color in a single pass.

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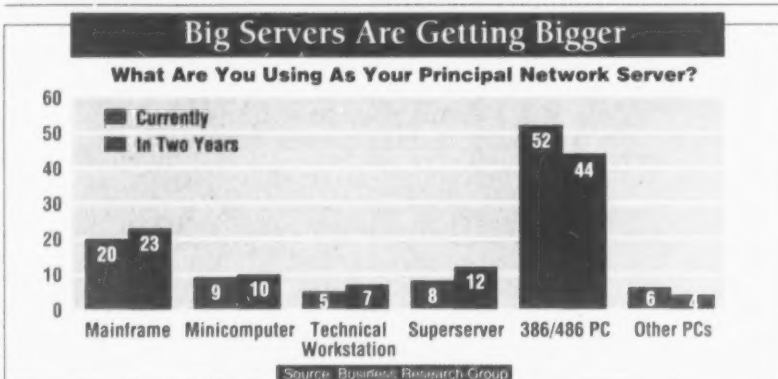
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Serve 'Em Up, Serve 'Em Big

As corporate MIS shops put more of their critical commercial applications on local area networks, their demand for high-powered server hardware is fast increasing. New data from a recent survey by the Business Research Group even show that mainframe systems may be reemerging as a strong basis for servers on many larger networks. At the same time, all of these LAN-based systems still need to access data residing on legacy mainframe and minicomputer systems.

According to the recently completed survey of 300 *Fortune* 1,000 and smaller companies that have implemented or plan to implement client/server systems, a three-tier computing environment is emerging for servers used in client/server computing—big, really big and gigantic. Currently, the leading server platforms for networked systems regardless of operating system are 386- and 486-based personal computers. They are named as the primary server for client/server net-



works by 52% of respondents. The next most popular primary server platforms are mainframes (20%), with minicomputers coming in a distant third at 9%. However, two years from now, fewer respondents' (44%) expect to be using 386 and 486-based systems as their primary server and more expect to be using mainframes (23%), minis (10%), technical workstations (7%) and superservers (12%) in that role.

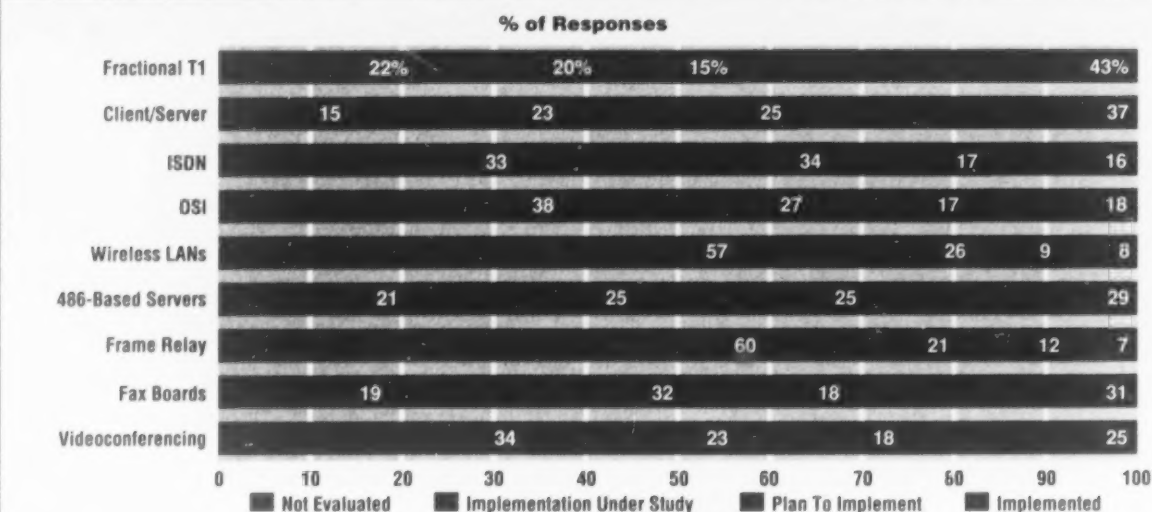
The survey also shows that most sites continue to rely on their mainframe systems to process applications like accounts payable/receivable, payroll, inventory and reports as well as to

store the data generated by these applications.

Nearly three-quarters of the respondents say they strongly agree that direct user access to mainframe and mini data will continue to be an important goal. Only 7% disagree at all with that statement.

Warren Childs and Kathryn A. Tito, Business Research Group. For more information, call Nancy Finn at (617)-964-6204, send her a fax at (617)-558-4402 or write to her at the Business Research Group, 275 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02458.

DATAMATION's Technology Implementation Index: Networks/Communications



DATAMATION each month surveys a select group of its readers—the DATAMATION Technology Panel—to investigate the implementation of new technologies by key user organizations.